

28 SISIs, 30 Branch SISIs, a number of Tool Rooms and specialised institutions located in various parts of the country.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Committee on Restructuring of KVIC

6588. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any committee has been set up to restructure Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) the steps taken to implement the Report of the High Powered Committee to generate more jobs in KVIC;

(d) whether staffing pattern and pay scales are to be revised as a result of these recommendations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Government has not set up any committee for the restructuring of Khadi and Village Industries Commission. However, the High Power Committee has also made certain recommendations for restructuring the KVIC like setting up of a separate wing in KVIC to supervise the working of silver plants, creation of a separate bank/financial institutions for rural industries authorising KVIC to act as registering authority for export from KVI sector with powers of inspection and certification of the products, various schemes and programmes and delegation of day-to-day functions to the CEO and FA, KVIC. It has further recommended that a separate body similar to State Financial Corporation should be created at the State level which can mobilise the resources for promotion of village industries. The KVIC also had commissioned the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) for undertaking a study on the restructuring of the KVIC set up.

(c) The High Power Committee (HPC) on KVI made a number of recommendations including the recommendation to create additional employment to the tune of 2 million in KVI sector during the remaining period of Eighth Five Year Plan and 5.6 million jobs by the end of Ninth Five Year Plan i.e. (by 2002 A.D.). As a follow up on the recommendations of the HPC, Government have revised the KVI schemes by introducing new schemes such as

margin money scheme in place of the interest subsidy scheme. Exhanded plan outlay is also being provided to KVIC since 1995-96 for implementation of the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). As part of the REGP, KVIC has launched important schemes such as District Special Employment Scheme in 71 districts, 125 Block KVI Development Programme and National Programme on Leather, Bee-Keeping and Handmade Paper for generating additional employment.

(d) and (e) Recommendations of the High Power Committee and IIPA with regard to restructuring of KVIC offices are being examined by the KVIC/Government and no final decision has yet been taken thereon.

Production of Tea in Southern States

6589. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to increase the tea production in the Southern States;

(b) if so, whether a ten year programme has been proposed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of such States where these programmes are being implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) No ten year's programme for development of tea industry has been formulated by the Government or Tea Board. The Board has however, placed proposals for the 9th Plan which envisage boosting production of tea and aims at a production target of 1000 million kg by the terminal year of 9th Plan viz. 20001-02. For achieving the production target, various short, medium and long term measures have been suggested involving a total outlay of Rs. 1378 crore for the five year period. The 9th Plan encompasses all the tea growing areas in the country including South India.

Disinvestment of Shares of PSU

6590. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a decline in the amount of dividend to be paid to the Government by the Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;